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TO: Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Examiner D. Brown
Mail Stop Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DATE: February 24, 2006
FROM: David M. Crompton

OUR REF: 1018.1193101
TELEPHONE: 612-677-9050

Total pages, including cover letter: 11

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Title of Document(s) Transmitted: AMENDMENT

Applicant: Takashi Ichikawa et al.

Serial No.: 10/723,005

Filed: November 26, 2003

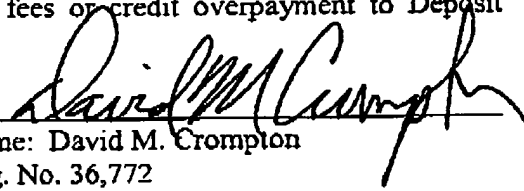
Group Art Unit: 3616

Our Ref. No.: 1018.1193101

Confirmation No.: 9569

Customer No.: 28075

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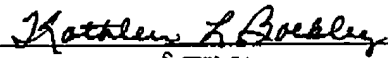
PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Takashi Ichikawa et al. Confirmation No.: 9569
Serial No.: 10/723,005 Examiner: D. Brown
Filing Date: November 26, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3616
Docket No.: 1018.1193101 Customer No.: 28075
For: VEHICLE DRIVE SYSTEM OPERATION APPARATUS AND VEHICLE
DRIVE CONTROL SYSTEM

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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AMENDMENT

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Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office Action mailed November 28, 2005, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on February 28, 2006. This paper is filed within the set period for response such that no extension of time is necessary.

Please consider the following amendments and/or remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.